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 Sunday High: 69, Low: 42 Chance showers	 Monday High: 59, Low: 35 Mostly sunny

News Briefs

Enlisted Call
There will be an Enlisted Call at 10:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. on April 9 at the Kaye Auditorium.


BLAZE Race
The Spring Perimeter Run/BLAZE Race will be held Wednesday at 1 p.m. Starts at the Fitness Center.

OSC Scholarship Banquet
The OSC Scholarship Banquet is Tuesday, April 14 at 6:30pm at the Columbus Club. Please RSVP by April 9 to coscrsvp@yahoo.com.

Sex Signals

As part of April's sexual assault awareness month, the 14th FTW SARC will be hosting an improve-style show called "Sex Signals." "Sex Signals" is a 90-minute two-person program that includes skits that deal with subjects including dating, rape, consent and other associated topics such as body language, alcohol and intervention. The program is April 6 from 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. and from 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the Kaye Auditorium. While attendance is mandatory for military members 26 and under, others are encouraged to attend.

Inside



Feature **10**

SUPT class 09-07 graduates today at 10 a.m. at the Kaye Auditorium.



U.S. Air Force Photo/Sonic Johnson
Col. Mark Brown, 14th Mission Support Group commander (left), and Col. Roger Watkins, 14th Flying Training Wing commander (right), stand with George "Happy" Irby, Sr., at the Happy Fund Annual Golf tournament on Nov. 14, 2008. Irby passed away last Friday on his 94th birthday.

Columbus AFB, community mourn loss of humanitarian, friend

Mr. Sonic Johnson
Chief, 14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

Columbus Air Force Base and the Columbus, Miss., community lost a true humanitarian last Friday.

George "Happy" Irby, Sr., died March 27 after a short illness. Born March 27, 1915, Irby passed away on his 94th birthday.

After retiring from the Columbus and Greenville railroad, Irby began his 50 year

employment at Columbus AFB on October 1, 1958. Irby spent the majority of those years at the Columbus AFB Officer's Club and now the consolidated Columbus Club where he was the

See IRBY, Page 2

C O L U M B U S A F B T R A I N I N G T I M E L I N E															
P H A S E I I				P H A S E I I I				I F F				W I N G S O R T I E B O A R D			
Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Track Select	Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Graduation	Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Graduation	Aircraft	Required	Flown	Annual
37th (10-01)	5.90 days	-1.38 days	Apr. 22	48th (09-08)	-2.49 days	-0.68 days	Apr. 24	49th (09-GB)	2.15 days	2.15 days	May 11	T-6	126	152	14,740
41st (10-02)	-2.13 days	-7.44 days	May 13	50th (09-08)	4.44 days	1.43 days	Apr. 24					T-1	48	54	5,599
												T-38	42	45	4,258
Graduation speaker: The graduation speaker is Col. David Reth, 14th Operations Group Commander.												IFF	12	17	1,486

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AWANA 6:30 p.m.

Pastor: Mike Allred
Music Minister: Randy Comer
Youth Pastor: Matt Long



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SUNDAY MORNINGS
(Beginning Oct. 19): 8:17 am (Sec Pro. 8:17 KJV)
Early Worship Service
9:30 am: Sunday School for All Ages
10:30 am: Worship Service
(Children's Church for ages 4 - 2nd grade)
SUNDAY EVENINGS
(September - May) 4:00 pm: Jr. Varsity & Varsity A.W.A.N.A.
(Jr. Varsity: ages 6,7,8 grades; Varsity: High School)
(September - May) 4:15 pm: Club A.W.A.N.A.
(for Ages 3 yr. old - 5th Grade)
(June - August) 5:00 pm: Summer Blast for Children
(Ages 3 yr. old - 5th Grade)
(June - August) 5:00 pm: Youth Discipleship Training
5:00 pm: Discipleship Training for Adults
6:00 pm: Worship
7:00 pm: Adult Choir Practice
WEDNESDAY NIGHTS
@ 6:30 pm
Mission Friends: ages 3 - 5
R.A.s & G.A.s: 1st - 5th Grades
Youth Bible Study: 6th - 12th Grades
Adult Bible Study/Prayer
Nursery is provided for all services.

Weekly Lenten Schedule

First United Methodist Church

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COLUMBUS, MISSISSIPPI
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WWW.COLUMBUSFUMC.ORG

Communion Services

Thursdays at 7:00 a.m. in the Chapel

Lenten Luncheon

Friday, April 3 • Noon in the Artz Fellowship Hall

Andy Pearson

Andy Pearson is the pastor of Wesley United Methodist Church in Columbus, MS. He and his wife Sally have two daughters, Bess Pearson and Susan Sweat. In addition to pastoring the church, he is a physical therapist and owner of Healthsouth in Columbus. His hobbies include hunting, fishing and farming. Pearson is a participant and ex-board member of Walk to Emmaus, is involved in the prison ministry Whole Man Ministries, and speaks on sports medicine topics at various colleges, universities and conferences.

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Gratitude

Lt. Col. Kelly Menozzi
48th Flying Training Squadron commander

Today's Air Force has never been more dynamic or cutting edge and our young Airmen are constantly rising to challenge. Every three weeks a new class pins on their silver wings with each individual adding their experience to our rich Air Force heritage.

It is easy in the frenzy of everyday life to lose perspective on how fortunate we are as Americans and Airmen in today's Air Force. Growing up in a small town in Minnesota, the Air Force was not something I was familiar with. Yet today it's shaped and influenced my life in many profound ways, most notably through the people I've met. The quality and caliber of today's wartime all-volunteer force of both students and instructors is truly humbling. I sincerely believe, as do many others, that we are witnessing and grooming the next greatest generation.


Today's Air Force has never been more dynamic or cutting edge and our young Airmen are constantly rising to challenge. Every three weeks a new class pins on their silver wings with each individual adding their experience to our rich Air Force heritage. It is one of my favorite moments to meet the parents and congratulate the newly minted pilots wearing their wings for the first time. I am grateful to be a small part of it.

I am also grateful for the diversity of people who weave the colorful tapestry of today's Air Force. I am grateful for the leaders that inspire us all to be better and for our hard working enlisted Airmen. I am grateful for silent heroes and fallen friends, such as Capt. Steve Plumhoff, one of my pilot training classmates killed in Afghanistan. I am grateful for spouses and families who fill our lives with meaning and laughter. I am grateful there are caring leaders, medical care providers and friends that help us through the tough times. I treasure the enthusiastic lieutenants whose boundless ener-

gy and optimism is at the core of why I smile when I go to work and know the future of the AF is in great hands.

I am grateful for people like Lt. Col. Jean "Pyro" Havens who volunteered to serve in Iraq for over a year and train the future Iraqi Air Force. I am grateful for community leaders such as Mrs. LL Gates, who visibly support and affirm all those who serve. I am grateful for dedicated maintenance professionals who launch and maintain our aircraft daily. I am grateful for a phenomenal squadron of total force instructors whose effort and dedication makes us better every day.

If you listen to the current news focusing on the poor economy and the disappointment in some of our largest corporations actions, it wouldn't paint much hope for America's future. However, I see the future being minted everyday and I have nothing but confidence that we are on the right path. I am proud to be associated with the caliber of people the Air Force attracts. Our people are definitely something to be grateful for.



Stimulus package to aid Airmen

Improvements in dormitories, child development centers and energy conservation plans will benefit as the Air Force receives about \$1.7 billion in Defense-related appropriations through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, military finance officials said.

With a focus on Airmen care, families and environmental stewardship, the Air Force's portion of the stimulus will spur about 1,500 military construction and facility improvement projects, including quality-of-life upgrades and renewableenergy research.

"ARRA funds are being used for high priority maintenance and repair projects as well as new child development centers, military family housing and dormitories," said Air Force Civil Engineer Maj. Gen. Del Eulberg. "This is consistent with Air Force goals to improve the quality of life for its Airmen and their families."

ARRA funds will also be used to support high-priority programs such as fuel-cell, wind and solar research and energy security. Air Force leaders support national and Department of Defense efforts to achieve greater energy independence through funding these critical military energy research programs.


ARRA funded projects include more than 1,500 maintenance and repair projects valued at \$1.1 billion in addition to \$260 million for Air Force military construction and housing:

- \$100 million for four dormitories
- \$80 million for seven child development centers
- \$80 million for two military family housing projects

Additionally, Air Force engineers will construct four Energy Conservation Investment Program projects using \$17 million provided to the Department of Defense.

Find Airman's Roll Call Online Here: <http://www.af.mil/library/viewpoints/>

Airman's Roll Call is designed for supervisors at all levels to help keep Airmen informed on current issues, clear up confusion, dispel rumors, and provide additional face-to-face communication between supervisors and their teams.



There are three different methods people can use to report sexual assault. It's vital you know the difference!

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24/7 On-Call Hotline: (662) 364-0822.

Updated Professional Development Guide available online

Tech. Sgt. Jennifer Lindsey
Air Education and Training
Command Public Affairs

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — The latest version of the Air Force Professional Development Guide is now available online for all Airmen.

The 500 page, 30.8 MB document is of particular interest to enlisted Airmen in the ranks of staff sergeant through senior master sergeant who want to begin studying for their next promotion examination.

Air Force Pamphlet 36-2241, interim copy, dated July 1, 2009, can be downloaded in PDF format from Air Force e-Publishing at www.e-publishing.af.mil by searching for “AFPAM36-2241.”

“This is one-stop shopping for the enlisted promotion test — the sole reference for the 100 question Promotion Fitness Examination for grades E-4 through E-7 and the U.S. Air Force Supervisory Examination for those testing for E-8 and E-9,” said Chief Master Sgt. Kevin Denter, the Air Force Occupational Measurement Squadron professional development flight chief.

The guide debuted March 16, 2007, and is scheduled for update every two years. Its name reflects its design — to provide Airmen guidance necessary for growth, in addition to the instruction needed to score well on the promotion test, Chief Denter said.

“I find that our Airmen today have a thirst to learn more and providing this information supports professional development,” he said. “If they are willing to take the time out of their days to become the most professional Airmen, why not give them the information and allow them to make the decision to begin practicing senior enlisted skills.”

What sets the 2009 PDG edition apart from the previous edition are two chapters of information useful for Airmen that is not included in the promotion examination: an updated Chapter 1, Studying Effectively; and the addition of Chapter 20, Enlisted Force Development, the chief said. Studying Effectively offers more tips for studying and test-taking success. Enlisted Force Development is a particularly favorite chapter of Chief Denter's and offers Airmen information about My EDP, a military career tracking and guidance resource on the Air Force Portal;

learning styles and tips for interview success. The updated guide also contains direct references to the Air Force Instructions governing the subject.

“Being a successful Airman isn't just about enlisted promotion anymore, it's now about building leaders,” the chief said.

For those who prefer to listen to the instructions outlined in the PDG, a professionally read MP3 version is scheduled for download availability from July 1 on the AFOMS Intranet site, the chief said.

Distribution of the printed books begins May 1.

“The only difference between the hardcopy edition and the 2009 edition on e-Publishing is that the downloadable version doesn't have the nice cover with the pictures on it,” the chief said.

The professional development flight is also working to develop electronic PDG interactive learning chapters to provide a tactile learning method, such as for dress and appearance, and military customs and courtesies studies, the chief said.

“In the near future, Airmen will be able to not only learn about professional development



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Patrick Brown

Captain Charles Hamilton speaks with David Brittian about 4-H opportunities offered to military youth during the Year of the Air Force Family: Caring for People Forum April 1 at Arlington, Va. Mr. Brittian said 4-H offers opportunities at Air Force bases worldwide and can be found at base youth centers or with school-age programs. Mr. Brittian is a youth development specialist with North Carolina State University. Captain Hamilton is the deputy chief of future operations at the Pentagon Services Division in Arlington.

Air Force officials hold Caring for People Forum

Staff Sgt. Patrick Brown
Defense Media Activity-San Antonio

ARLINGTON, Va. — More than 200 Air Force behavioral specialists, chaplains, family advocacy personnel and other family support members gathered to discuss how to care for the Air Force family April 1 in Arlington, Va.

The Year of the Air Force Family: Caring for People Forum started in a hotel in the shadow of the Air Force Memorial and blocks away from Arlington National Cemetery.

The forum is the official start of the Year of the Air Force family and will provide professionals from around the Air Force an opportunity to discuss issues and develop programs to better suit the needs of the Air Force family.

“It's vitally important to take care of our family members because they take care of us,” said Lt. Gen. Richard Y. Newton III, the deputy chief of staff for manpower, personnel and services at Headquarters Air Force.

“We have Airmen deployed in over 135 different locations across the world,” he said. “All the while, we still have Airmen launching F-22 (Raptors) off the flightline at Langley (Air Force Base in Virginia), maintaining and safeguarding (intercontinental ballistic missiles) at Minot (AFB in North Dakota) in all kinds of weather ... so my message to you is this: this is not a passing fancy of ours for 2009; this will be the year of the family. It's about taking care of our families because they are absolutely vital to our Air Force and our nation.”

General Newton stressed that family members are part of the

Air Force team and must be provided for in order for the Air Force to maintain excellence in air, space and cyberspace.

“I want you to roll up your sleeves and think broadly in terms of how we can provide more support for our family members as they serve alongside us, so they are better prepared to meet the challenges that Air Force life has to offer.”

Dr. Angela Huebner, an associate professor with Virginia Polytechnic Institutes and State University's Department of Human Development was the keynote speaker. Dr. Huebner conducts research on military family issues, particularly those related to deployment adjustment. Her work is widely cited and often used to help inform family support initiatives.

In her last Defense Department study, Dr. Huebner worked with military children face-to-face and said the most immediate impact of her work helped to give the children a sense of community.

“I feel like it gives them an idea that they are not alone,” she said. “In our study, these kids were sitting around talking to each other about how they dealt with stress. One young person would say they might deal with it by writing in a journal and another would have another idea, so they got to come up with a whole new repertoire of things they could do when they got stressed.”

Dr. Huebner echoed General Newton's stance on the Air Force family and the branch's duty to commit to its family.

“There are a lot of issues facing military families today,” she said. “The more we can get that out there, including what's going well, the better off they'll be. They're giving such a serv-

SERVICES

A variety of activities are offered for families

Club membership drive

The Columbus Club is conducting a club membership drive and current members have an opportunity to earn extra entries into the drawing for a \$500 Visa gift card or two \$100 Visa gift cards. The drawing will be held April 16 at 6 p.m. at the club's Spirit Night. For more information about the club and membership benefits, contact the marketing office at 434-2337.

Spring Fling egg hunt

This annual program is scheduled from 9:30 a.m. to noon tomorrow at Freedom Park. Volunteers are needed to help with this program. The egg hunt is open to youth, ages 1 to 12. Carnival games, activities, demonstrations and more will be available. For more information call 434- 2504.

White water rafting trip

The outdoor adventure program offers this trip May 29-31 but the deadline to register is April 15 at Outdoor Recreation. Cost is \$160 per person and includes transportation, chalet lodging and meals on Saturday and rafting the middle river on the Ocoee. For more information, call 434-7861.

Summer day camp registration

The youth center's school age program begins registration for the summer day camp for school age children April 6. A \$10 deposit is required for each week to hold a space for your child. Cost is based on total family income and all meals, entrance fees, supplies, etc. are included in the cost. There are limited spaces available. For more information, call 434-2504.

Instructors needed for youth mini-camps

The youth center is seeking instructors for mini camps for the summer. If you have a talent you would like to share with base youth, contact the youth center by April 15. Camps may be three to five days in length. Instructors may charge a fee or provide camp for free. Camp registration will begin April 28 at the youth center. For more information, call 434-2504.

Disney summer trip

The information, ticket and travel office offers a trip to Disney World in Orlando, Fla., July 19 to 25. The bus tour price per seat is \$147 per person round trip and includes shut-

tle to and from Disney World for five days. The hotel is the Holiday Inn SunSpree Resort in Lake Buena Vista and each room has two queen beds and will sleep four to six people. Price for the week per family is \$675. The military member receives a free five day hopper with water park pass while each companion ticket up to 60 percent off. There are only 30 seats available on the bus. A layaway plan is available. For more information, call 434-2507.

Air Force Space Camp

The Air Force Services Family Member Programs is excited to sponsor the Air Force Space Camp Program at the US Space and Rocket Center, Huntsville, Ala., July 26 to Aug. 1. Youth, ages 12 to 18, will experience, imagine and interact through Space Shuttle mission simulations, tours of the center and the chance to witness first-hand the everyday challenges faced by astronauts. The camp is an inspiring week of fun and enriching space activities. This program is open to family members of Air Force active duty military, Air Force retired military, Air Force civilian employees or activated Air National Guard or Air Force reserve. Applications must be submitted to the youth center by April 17. For more information, visit www.afyouthprograms.com or call the youth center at 434- 2504.

Easter Sunday Champagne Brunch

The Columbus Club offers this special brunch from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 12. Cost is \$17.95 for club members and \$19.95 for non-members. Reservations are required by April 7. Menu choices include: rosemary roasted pork tenderloin medallions, London broil au jus, mashed potatoes and gravy, garden wild rice, maple glazed carrots, deluxe salad bar with toppings and dressings, omelet bar, waffle station with toppings galore, bacon, sausage, eggs, biscuits with gravy, French toast styx with warm syrup, grits, hash browns, stir-fry station including up to 13 items to choose from, ham carving station with mustard potato salad, deviled eggs and rolls, assorted cakes and pies, cheesecake, cheese tray and fruit tray. For more information, call 434-2490.

Fitness Cycle Throwdown

The base library offers this program April 13 to 17. Join us as we showcase the synergy of using library materials during a fitness activity, building body and brain simultaneously. Help

your Library win the Air Force Traveling Trophy and a surprise prize! Any person, age 16 and older, who is eligible to use the library may participate. All miles will be ridden at the Fitness Center on a stationary fitness cycle. For riders who read a book or magazine while cycling, record total number of pages read during the time slot. For riders who listen to an audio book while cycling, record total number of minutes spent listening during the time slot. For more information, contact the Library at 434-2934.

Memphis in May

The information, ticket and travel office will offer a Memphis in May trip May 16-7. Cost is \$150 per person, double occupancy, \$135 per person with three to a room or \$125 per person with 4 to a room. Cost includes transportation, lodging with breakfast included and entry both days. Departing at 8 a.m. Saturday and returning at 9 p.m. Sunday. Must have at least 16 registered by May 2 to offer.

Adult and youth crafts classes

The arts and crafts center offers classes for youth and adult every Thursday at 10:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. A display of class projects is available in the lobby. Upcoming classes include making a tissue paper rainbow, a bug catcher, butterfly wind chimes, a shamrock necklace, a decorative Spring fence with flower pots, an Easter egg ornament and an Easter Bunny door wreath. Kids crafts classes are \$5 each and adult classes range from \$10 to \$20 depending on the class. The kids crafts can be purchased “to go” for just \$3. Parents provide the glue, markers and scissors. For more information, call Ext. 7836.

Month of the military child art show

The youth center and child development center are hosting this event from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 6 at the Services Complex. Refreshment will be served. Stop in to view the artistic creations of our youth. For more information, call 434- 2504.

Base stables open house

In an effort to promote equine awareness, the base stables are hosting an open house from 9 a.m. to noon April 18. There will be riding and round pen exhibitions and demonstrations about base horse care and the different breeds of horses. For more information, call 434-2337.

Self help car wash

There is a self-help car wash located behind the youth center on Ninth Street. Cost is \$1 for 5 minutes and customers may add a quarter for each additional minute before the time ends for an extended wash. 434- 7842.

Massage therapy

The fitness center offers massage therapy by appointment only. Cost is \$30 for 30-minutes, \$50 for 60-minutes and \$75 for 90-minutes. For more information or to make an appointment, call 251-3058.

Casino trips

The information, ticket and travel office offers a trip to the Silver Star Casino the first Friday of every month. Cost is \$20 per person and includes transportation and \$25 in casino play. Groups of ten or more may book a trip anytime. For more information, call 434-2505.

Blaze Lunch Bunch

at the Columbus Club

Every Wednesday During Lunch

All plates come with one meat, two sides, roll or hushpuppies, tea or water

\$6.25 for club members
\$7.25 for nonmembers

This week's menu:
Meat choices:
Fried Chicken
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Sides:
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♦ **THE HAUNTING IN CONNECTICUT** PG-13
4:30 • 7:30 • 9:55 • Sat Mat 1:15

♦ **12 ROUNDS** PG-13
4:25 • 7:25 • 9:50 • Sat Mat 1:05

♦ **I LOVE YOU MAN** R
4:55 • 7:35 • 9:55 • Sat Mat 12:15 • 2:35

♦ **KNOWING** PG-13
4:25 • 7:15 • 9:50 • Sat Mat 1:10

♦ **RACETO WITCH MOUNTAIN** PG
4:50 • 7:10 • 9:25 • Sat Mat 12:20 • 2:35

♦ **LAST HOUSE ON THE LEFT** R
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Amputee pilot completes third deployment

Maj. Carie A. Parker
455th Air Expeditionary Wing

BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan — What sets Maj. Alan Brown apart from other Airmen in the gym at Bagram Airfield's Camp Cunningham isn't his workout routine, it's his right leg.

"When people see me in shorts at the gym there's definitely a pattern," said the 42-year-old mobility pilot of Pine Bluffs, Wyo.

"They glance at my eyes, look down at my leg and then look back at my eyes," said the Wyoming Air National Guard Airmen deployed with the 774th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron. "It happens every time."

Major Brown accidentally shot his leg in a hunting accident more than 10 years ago. After four weeks in a drug-induced coma and three weeks of grueling rehabilitation, he was released as an above-the-knee amputee. His family made the decision to amputate after several attempts to restore blood flow to the leg failed. That decision saved his life.

"My body was shutting down and they made the tough decision to amputate not knowing how I would react," the major said.

Once he woke up, remembering the accident, his eyes were drawn to his leg. He asked the obvious question, "I lost my leg right?" Then he asked if his then girlfriend (now wife) Gina was still around. His third question provided his family some kind of relief, "What can I do to fly again?"

The answer to the last question had already been researched while the major was in his coma. Knowing how passionate he was about flying, squadron mates had done some homework to find out exactly how he could fly again. Upon hearing his question, they shared with him the names of two civilian amputee pilots who had successfully returned to the cockpit following similar procedures.

Despite recommendations from medical professionals, Major Brown left the crutches and wheelchair behind, focusing on being back to normal. He never looked back.

"Attitude is everything, either you're going to let an injury like this ruin your life or you resume your life," Major Brown said.

He returned to work just nine weeks after the accident, and said he's found if he's willing to give everything he has toward a goal, people are willing to give everything they have to assist. One of those goals was getting back in the cockpit of the C-130 Hercules, re-establishing himself as just another pilot.

"I had invested a lot of time and energy into becoming a pilot," he said. "I wasn't about to walk away from the only career I had known."

First, Major Brown had to prove he should stay in the National Guard. Once he convinced leadership he was dedicated to the mission, the next step was to convince them he could deploy. His current deployment is his third since he regained his worldwide qualification in 2005.

In the meantime, a well-meaning co-worker offered him a handicapped parking spot so he wouldn't have to walk so far to work.

"I laughed, thanked her and explained that I wasn't handi-



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Erik Cardenas

Major Alan Brown rides a stationary bicycle March 21 at Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan. Major Brown is an amputee C-130 Hercules pilot deployed with the 774th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron from the 187th Airlift Squadron of the Wyoming Air National Guard. He lost his leg in a hunting accident 10 years ago, and after seven years he regained his qualifications to fly. Major Brown works out daily riding the stationary bike using a custom strap developed by the unit's life support crew.

capped," he said. "It totally went against everything I was trying to achieve. In my mind I couldn't be handicapped and convince people I was able to fly a plane."

His last and most challenging task was to assure anyone who would listen that he wouldn't be a liability as a pilot. He had to prove this with a testimonial from a flight doctor that he could perform as a two-legged pilot.

Before the accident he'd flown for almost five years. From start to finish it took another seven years to get back in the saddle with the military. His dedication to the mission helped motivate him toward getting requalified.

"In my mind, I need to be deployed with my buddies. We've been training and flying together for years. It's not an option to stay home while they're here taking on the mission," the major said. "Flying is in my blood. It's what I do. And besides, I believe

Before the accident he'd flown for almost five years. From start to finish it took another seven years to get back in the saddle with the military. His dedication to the mission helped motivate him toward getting requalified.

in what we're doing in Afghanistan."

He admitted flying is different with a prosthetic.

"As a pilot, using your feet is second nature," he said. "I just had to learn how to operate in a different way after the accident."

The deployed environment does present one significant challenge to the pilot.

"The gravel is rough," he laughed. "I haven't fallen yet but I can tell you that I know where every paved surface is on the base."

His prosthetic leg is slightly shorter than his remaining leg — to ensure he doesn't drag his foot on the ground — and has a hydraulic knee to aid with stabilization, but it's much less maneuverable than his own leg.

That lack of flexibility limits him at the gym with weight training and cardiovascular activity. He discovered he can ride the stationary bike with the help of a custom strap crafted by the unit's life support crew.

"Just about every day someone approaches me to ask what happened," he said. "People aren't sure if I'm sensitive about it. But once I let them know that I'm not offended and explain what happened, everything is fine."

The one thing the major is reluctant to talk about is how he's helped others in his situation. He takes every opportunity to encourage other amputees there is life after a lost limb.

"This isn't about me and what I've accomplished. I made a big mistake. There's no one to blame for this but me, and I don't want to stand out," Major Brown said. "Being comfortable with my situation gives me a chance to answer questions other amputees may have on what they'll face."

On a recent trip to Walter Reed hospital in Washington, D.C., he visited many veterans facing the future without a limb.

"I just wanted to answer any questions they had," he said. "Coming home and not knowing what the future holds can be overwhelming."

He emphasized how impressive it is that the military has taken a wider approach with amputees in light of the recent increase in those losing limbs in Iraq and Afghanistan.

He also understands the importance of friends and family when facing difficulty.

"Everyone faces challenges, but having the right mindset and the right people to support you makes the difference," said the major, who expects to be back home by the end of the month. "I'm the most fortunate guy around, not only do I get to fly, but I am surrounded by great people who have supported me and have now accepted me as just another pilot. That's all I've ever wanted."

Identity theft: don't let it happen to you

Staff Sgt. David A. Palmer Jr.
14th Security Forces Squadron Investigations

Imagine you are in line at the local department store, and are about to purchase a product that you have been saving for a long time to buy. You approach the cashier, swipe your debit/credit card through the slot and await the typical acceptance response from your bank.

However, on this occasion the acceptance message seems to be taking longer than usual and the line of customers behind you begins to grow impatient. Suddenly the cashier utters those humiliating words you were dreading: "I'm sorry, sir/ma'am, but the bank is declining your card. Would you like to try another form of payment?"

If you're like most people, you freak out, leave the merchandise with the cashier and head straight for the nearest computer or ATM to verify what you were just told. Surely the cashier must have been mistaken, right? Or maybe you entered the wrong PIN? Surely you cannot be out of funds this soon after payday, can you? As soon as you log in to your bank's website, you notice a laundry list of charges you don't recognize.

Now you realize someone has been using your card without your consent. How did this happen?

Unfortunately this scenario occurs more often than you would think, and most of the victims believe it could never happen to them. You have been the victim of one of the many forms of identity theft; and you are not alone. In fact, identity theft has frequently occurred to Columbus AFB personnel over the past three months.

Identity theft is the illegal assumption of another person's identity. This criminal practice involves the deliberate use of false or stolen information such as a person's name, birth date, social security number, address, or bank account information to obtain cash and/or merchandise. The most common victims are those who have excellent credit histories or no history at all, such as children or teenagers.

According the Federal Trade Commission's Consumer Response Center brochure, there are five common ways to have your identity stolen. The first is dumpster diving. Thieves will rummage through your trash seeking bills or other paperwork with personal information on it. They will then use this information to request credit cards, loans, merchandise, or other items.

The second method is called skimming, which is where thieves steal credit/debit card numbers by using a special storage device planted in common places such as ATM machines and credit card swiping machines. Once information is compromised, the thief has almost unlimited access to your accounts.

The third most common method is known as "phishing." The most frequent type of phishing occurs when a thief pretends to be a financial institution and sends email spam or pop-up messages to you while online to get you to reveal personal information.

The fourth most common way to have your identity stolen is by changing your address. Thieves will divert your billing



Metro Creative Graphics image

Protect yourself by being cautious when making purchases to avoid becoming a victim of identity theft.

and bank statements to another location by completing a simple change of address form. The final most common way is with "old-fashioned" thievery, where a bandit will steal your wallet, purse, or mail (primarily bank statements, new checks, and pre-approved credit card offers) and use the information they find for their own dishonest purposes.

Another possible practice involves theft from a legitimate business transaction. A dishonest employee may simply copy your account information from a bill or receipt document from a legitimate purchase, service call; such as a plumbing repair call to your home.

According to the Better Business Bureau of Mississippi (www.ms.bbb.org) and the Columbus Police Department, while there are no known specific or organized threats in the local area, everyone is a potential victim.

Here's how you can know if you have become a victim before you are in the checkout line at the store or attempting to pay for your meal at a favorite restaurant. If you stop receiving certain bills, or start receiving credit cards you

know you did not apply for, then there is a good chance someone is using your identity in an unauthorized fashion. Other ways to know if your identity is compromised include, but are not limited to: being denied credit; inexplicable funds withdrawals or expenditures on your banking or credit card accounts; and calls or notices regarding purchases you did not make, such as from creditors or debt recovery agencies. If you notice any of these types of events happening, you need to stop everything and contact your financial institution immediately.

The longer you wait after discovering any suspicious activity the more it could cost you in the long run. Other things to do are place a "fraud alert" on your credit reports (and review them carefully), file a police report, and report the theft to the Federal Trade Commission (<http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/microsites/idtheft/> or call 1-877-438-4338).

Now comes the good news: there are simple ways and easy to implement steps that you can take to combat those who would mean to cause malicious exploitation to your good name and credit rating. These measures require effort and diligence, but they make you a much harder target and a less likely candidate for identity theft. The first option is to do away with all paper copies of bills, credit card statements, and banking correspondence and do your bill paying and banking online, if possible. Taking this preventative action takes away any chance that a thief would have to steal from your mailbox. However, you should do your personal banking and online shopping from a personally owned computer instead of on shared computers, such as at a library or place of business. Shared computers are less secure and more likely to be compromised. For those who still desire to do their banking through the mail, invest in a good shredder and destroy documents that you no longer need or do not use.

Unwanted credit card or loan offers should be shredded immediately, whereas banking statements should be kept for three to seven years, depending on what type of documents they are. To request a complete records retention schedule, contact the Internal Revenue Service or the Better Business Bureau of Mississippi at 1-800-987-8280.

Furthermore, never use email to communicate sensitive personal information, such as your Social Security Number or birth date. If a "legitimate" financial company requests such information via email or internet pop-up, do not reply and contact that company directly to validate the request and/or handle the business over the phone. Most, if not all, financial institutions will not request personal information via email or pop-up advertisements. Check bank and credit card accounts routinely on-line for unauthorized or suspicious transactions (around 2-3 times per week).

Finally, and most importantly, be smart and don't be a soft target. Safeguard your personal information, and that of your family, to protect their interests and to ensure that your future (and theirs) is secure and prosperous, and to avoid those awkward moments in the checkout line.

Base News

Education Counseling Hours

Education counseling (CCAF, Bachelor's/Master's programs, Tuition Assistance, etc.) is now available Mondays and Wednesdays from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. by appointment only. Please contact Edward Hodge at 434-2562 to schedule.

Drug Education for Youth

The DEFY program promotes team building, goal setting, substance abuse, resistance skills and increases self-confidence for youth. This is a free program for dependents of active duty members, DOD civilians, retirees and contract employees' ages 9 to 12 years old. DEFY Summer Leadership Camp is scheduled for June 17-26 and will be held at the Columbus AFB Chapel Annex. Applications are available at the Chapel, Youth Center and Drug Demand Testing Office, located in the 14th Medical Group building. Deadline for application is May 30. For more information please call 434-2353 or 434-2133.

Magnet School Lotteries soon

This fall, the Columbus Municipal School District will begin the second year of magnet schools; and as in last year, in order to be assigned to the theme of choice, parents and students must enter the lottery. School choice forms are available via several methods; they will be sent home with current CMSD students, at the CMSD Central Services Office on McArthur Drive, or at the CAFB School Liaison Office located in building 730, room 202A. CMSD officials urge parents to get their children signed up for the lottery early to ensure their children are placed in their first choice. In the past, upwards of 97 percent of students receive their first choice. The deadline for submitting lottery applications is today at 4 p.m. The lottery for the 2009-10 school year will be conducted on April 17th. Additional information is available on the CMSD Website at www.columbuscityschools.org or you may contact the CAFB School Liaison at 434-2792.

Mississippi State University summer camps

Mississippi State University offers a wide variety of Summer Camps and Workshops for our young folks. The areas include: Soccer, Natural Resources, Transportation Institute, and Women in Action; other areas are being considered and will be added as they are approved. Several of the activities are Residential Camps and many are Day Camps. For a complete run-down, view the MSU 2009 Summer Camp website at: <http://www.admissions.msstate.edu/events/summercamps/camplisting.php> or contact the School Liaison at 434-2792.

Operation Purple Summer Camps

The National Military Family Association is

now accepting applications for its popular Operation Purple Summer Camps. Each camp is "purple" and open to children of any uniformed service member, active duty or reserve component. Apply online at <http://www.operationpurple.org/>. This year the National Military Family Association will host more than 9,000 military children at Operation Purple camps in 62 locations in 37 states and territories: Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Texas, Vermont, the Virgin Islands, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming. Information about specific camp locations is available at <http://www.operationpurple.org/>. Registration will be open until midnight EDT April 20. Priority is given to military children with a parent deployed or deploying anytime between September 2008 and December 2009 and have not had the opportunity to attend an Operation Purple camp in the past. Camps are free to all participants' thanks to support from the Sierra Club and the Sierra Club Foundation.

DAPS Hours change

Effective immediately the Columbus AFB DAPS will be open from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Tax Services

H&R Block will be providing tax preparation services through April 15, 2009. They will be located in the Columbus AFB Exchange. Please call Tom Darnell at 434-0070 for more information or to set up an appointment as hours will vary.

DRMO

Authorized personnel may retrieve property that is marked for DRMO Facilities only if they are still physically located in Base Supply. For more information, call 434-7233 to review the property or call Stock Control Section at 434-7179 or 434-7198. To check for authorization and Demand Processing Section, call 434-7178 to order the property. All other DRMO processing is done via the Web at www.drms.dla.mil.

Zero Overpricing Program-Incentive Awards

Overpricing is an issue everyone should be working. All personnel are encouraged to participate, and will be rewarded for any tangible savings resulting from their price challenge. Monetary awards will be given in accordance with AFI 38-401, The Air Force Innovative Development Employee Awareness Program. Advice and guidance are available by calling the Customer Service element of Base Supply, located in Building 158, at 434-7178.

Contemporary Movie Showings

Join us at the Columbus AFB Chapel the last

Thursday of each month from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. for fun, food and fellowship, as we watch a contemporary movie, have dinner and discuss what God has planned for us. Please call the chapel at 434-2500 to sign-up. There is no fee for this class. There is no childcare available.

Schedule as follows:
Sense and Sensibility: April 30

Weight Loss with Wisdom

It's time to make that New Year's resolution to get those unwanted pounds off for good, but who wants to do it alone? Please join us at the Chapel each Thursday 4:30 p.m. for advise, instruction and prayer for our goals. Lose a little weight with some friends. For more information, please call the Chapel office at 434-2500.

Supply Customer

If you are looking for that special piece of equipment or furniture for your office, your point of contact is the Inspection Section of Base Supply. Inspection maintains the Last Look Area, which has used equipment and furniture turned in from other organizations that no longer have a need for the items. All items in the Last Look Area are available without charge to your organization. For more information, you can contact the Inspection Section at 434-7233 or 434-7234.

Attention All Deployers

The 14th Communications Squadron has a new system which allows you to place "free" telephone calls back home from your deployed location via DSN. You can call every day or once a week; whichever you prefer (allotted time is 3.5 hours a week). Pin numbers are required and can be picked up along with instructions from the Telephone Systems office located in Building 900, Room 9. Please call 434-2020 for additional information.

Do you have a supply problem?

Do you have a supply problem? Do you need a status on an item you ordered? Did you receive the wrong part? The Customer Service Element is the single point of contact requiring assistance on supply related matters. For assistance, you may contact customer service at 434-7178.

Airman and Family Readiness Center

(Editor's note: All activities are offered at the Airman & Family Readiness Center unless otherwise specified. For more information about any of the activities listed, call 434-2790 or email afrc@columbus.af.mil.)

Smooth Move Briefing

The next Smooth Move Briefing will be April 14 from 2 p.m. until 3:30 p.m. Learn what to expect from TMO, Housing, Military Pay, Legal, Billeting, Tri-Care, Medical Records and the Airman and Family Readiness Center during your move. Advance registration required. Must register no later than 10 a.m. the day of

the workshop. To register call 434-2790.

Wing Newcomer's Orientation

Newly arrived active duty and civilian personnel may attend the newcomer's orientation April 21 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Airman and Family Readiness Center.

Pre-Deployment Brief

There is a mandatory briefing for active duty personnel who are deploying or going on a remote tour. The brief is held every work day at 9:30 a.m. Spouses are welcome to attend.

Volunteer Recruitment Fair

There will be a Volunteer Recruitment Fair April 23 from 1 to 3 p.m. All volunteers are invited to attend as well as individuals interested in volunteering. There will be representatives from different organizations/agencies to discuss volunteer opportunities. Refreshments and door prizes will be available.

Lunch and Learn

The next Lunch and Learn will be today and will focus on parent-child communication. Bring your lunch, event starts at 11 a.m. and ends at 12 p.m.

Post-Deployment Brief

This mandatory briefing is for active duty personnel who are returning from deployment or a remote tour are held daily at 1:30 p.m. at the A&FRC. For more information, call 434-2790.

Pre-separation Counseling

This mandatory briefing for personnel separating or retiring to be completed at least 90 days prior to separation is held daily at 8:30 a.m. May complete up to 12 months prior to separation or retirement. This briefing takes approximately 30 minutes. For more information, call 434-2839 or 434-2790.

Chapel Schedule

Holy Week Schedule for the Columbus AFB Chapel

Catholic Services

Holy Thursday, Service at 5 p.m.
Good Friday, Service at 5 p.m.
Holy Saturday, No Mass at CAFB
Easter Mass Mass at 5 p.m.


Protestant Services

8 April Living Last Supper, 7 p.m.
9 April Maundy Thursday, 7 p.m.
10 April Tenebrae Service (Good Friday) 7 p.m.
12 April Easter Sunrise Service, 6:30 a.m.
Traditional Worship Service, 10:45 a.m.

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Children's Handbells 4:30PM
Adult Bible Study 5:00PM
Youth Praise Choir
Pre-School Choir
Children's Graded Choir
Evening Worship 6:00PM

WEDNESDAY
AWANA 6:00PM
Prayer Service & Adult Bible Study.... 6:30PM
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal..... 7:30PM

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Local officials will read Dr. Seuss books 9-12

Age Divisions & Times:
3 yrs. & under: 10:00 a.m.
4-6 yrs old: 10:20 a.m.
7-10 yrs old: 10:40 a.m.

Prize Eggs in Each Age Group!

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CMYK

CAFB celebrates Women's History Month at luncheon

Senior Airman Jacob Corbin
14th Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs

Columbus Air Force Base concluded its Women's History Month activities March 31 at the Columbus Club at their annual luncheon.

This year's theme was "women taking the lead to save our planet."

"If we intend to have clean air to breathe and clean water to drink, each of us must take responsibility and take steps to improve our environment," said Jacqueline Dianne Exum, co-owner of The Barrister's House Bed and Breakfast in Columbus, Miss. Ms. Exum has wanted her bed and breakfast to go green since its inception, and according

to her that goal is almost complete.

Ms. Exum encouraged attendees to limit their use of paper and plastic products; recycle; and use environment-friendly, or green, products.

She said going green and taking care of our planet is a worldwide issue, and that everyone must do their part in saving the planet.

"Be safe and be kind to the environment," she said.

Ms. Exum also talked about how much the community enjoys having Columbus AFB nearby.

"The community loves Columbus AFB," she said. "It is an integral part of the community. We are proud to have you (Columbus AFB) in Lowndes County."



U.S. Air Force photo
Jacqueline Dianne Exum, co-owner of The Barrister's House Bed and Breakfast in Columbus, Miss., speaks at the Columbus Air Force Base Women's History Month Luncheon March 31 at the Columbus Club.

The Airman's Creed

I am an American Airman.
I am a Warrior.
I have answered my nation's call.

I am an American Airman.
My mission is to fly, fight, and win.
I am faithful to a proud heritage.
A tradition of honor,
And a legacy of valor.

I am an American Airman.
Guardian of freedom and justice,
My nation's sword and shield,
Its sentry and avenger.
I defend my country with my life.

I am an American Airman.
Wingman, leader, warrior.
I will never leave an Airman behind,
I will never falter,
And I will not fail.

Seven enlisted promoted in March



U.S. Air Force photo
Congratulations to March's enlisted promotes. (Front row, from left to right) Airman 1st Class Shauna Robinson, 14th Security Forces Squadron; Senior Airman Pedro Nula, 14th Medical Operations Squadron; and Senior Airman Siddharth Sunny, 14th Force Support Squadron. (Back row, from left to right) Tech. Sgt. Matthew Hullman, 14th MDO; Airman 1st Class Curtis Roseman, 14th Contracting-Comptroller Squadron Provisional; Senior Airman Ryan Dees, 14th Operations Squadron; and Senior Airman, 14th OSS Bradley Eakin.

General Coon visits Columbus AFB

Senior Airman Jacob Corbin
14th Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs

The commander of 10th Air Force recently visited Columbus Air Force Base, returning to the base where his career as a pilot began.

Maj. Gen. Thomas Coon, 10th Air Force commander at Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base, Fort Worth, Texas, is responsible for all fighter, bomber, special operations, rescue, air-borne warning and control, flying training, combat air operations battle staff, unoccupied aerial vehicle and space units in the Air Force Reserve Command.

In this capacity he was here to visit his subordinate unit, the 43rd Flying Training Squadron Firebirds. The 43rd FTS is a reserve unit which supplements active-duty instructor pilots.

General Coon said he believes the 43rd

FTS helps with training by providing additional manpower and a high-degree of continuity. (Editors note: For more information on the 43rd FTS, look in the Feature section of the March 20 Silverwings).

The general, who attended pilot training at Columbus AFB in 1977 and 1978, said his time here was very enjoyable.

"I loved the time I spent training here," General Coon said. "It was one of the most fun years of my life, learning to fly."

While he was here, General Coon got the chance to take a ride in the T-38C Talon, an upgraded model of one of the trainers he flew during his time.

"It's a significantly different aircraft than the one I flew," he said. "It is more parallel to the cockpits we have in fighters today."

Before leaving the general had a few parting words for those pilots undergoing or awaiting pilot training here today.



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Jacob Corbin
Maj. Gen. Thomas Coon, 10th Air Force commander, speaks to members of the 43rd Flying Training Squadron March 27 at the Philips Auditorium here.

"Work hard while you're here," he said. "Wherever you go in the Air Force, you're

going to enjoy it. There are so many good missions out there."

14th CES helps clean up YMCA camp



U.S. Air Force Photo
Members of the 14th Civil Engineer Squadron help clean up Camp Henry Pratt, in preparation for the camp opening. The camp is used for Columbus YMCA and Camp Rising Sun summer camps. Camp Rising Sun is a camp for children living in Mississippi, Alabama and southwestern Tennessee, ages 6-14, who have been, or are currently being, treated for cancer.

Nature Trail

Many people are unaware of the opportunity to walk, run, bike or horseback ride along Columbus AFB's Timberlane Nature Trail. Along the trail, various wetlands, trees and countless

wildlife can be found. To reach the recreational area, follow Independence Ave. to the runway area. Signs found alongside the dirt road toward SAC Lake offer direction to the beginning of the trails. For more information, call 434-7958



AROUND TOWN

Columbus Pilgrimage 10k Run

The Columbus Pilgrimage 10K Run will be held tomorrow at the Tennessee Williams Welcome Center and Museum. The race will wind through the Southside Historic District, Mississippi State University for Women and

along the river walk. Registration is from 6:30 a.m. until 7:45 a.m., the race begins at 8 a.m. Registration fee is \$17 if post marked before tomorrow, or \$20 on race day. For more information please contact 327-7688.

Lake Lowndes Annual Easter Egg Hunt

The Lake Lowndes Annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held Saturday, April 11, from 11 a.m to 4 p.m. The egg hunt begins at 1 p.m. for more

information please call 328-2110.

For more information about local area events, e-mail AFRC@columbus.af.mil or call the Airman and Family Readiness Center at 434-2790.



Visit [www. columbus.af.mil](http://www.columbus.af.mil) to learn about Columbus AFB agencies and other important information.



BARGAIN LINE

The deadline for submitting ads is noon Monday before the desired publication date. Ads turned in after the deadline will run the following week. Ads can be mailed to or dropped off at the public affairs office in the 14th Flying Training Wing Headquarters building, e-mailed to silverwings@columbus.af.mil or faxed to 434-7009. Calling Ext. 7068 by noon Monday can extend the run date of ads already submitted. Silver Wings reserves the right to limit ads based on content, space and frequency of requests. Advertisements for private businesses or services providing a continuous source of income may not appear in the Bargain Line. They may, however, be purchased through the Commercial Dispatch, 328-2424.

Miscellaneous

For sale: Murray riding lawn mower 38" cut, 12 hp, \$150. Pick up bed topper, black, windows on all sides, locking back liftdoor, off a Dodge Dakota \$250. Draw tight trailer hitch fits full size autos \$50. Please call 356-0280.
Looking for help: Do you love children? Do you need a little extra cash? Looking for enthusiastic, energetic, loving, experienced, reliable part-time babysitter to care for two young children. This is a part-time and very flexible position, just one hour each weekday morning and an occasional week-

day appointment. Interested in developing a long-term commitment with individual who will be living on Columbus AFB until Spring/Summer 2010. Please call 434-9288.
For sale: Bowflex full body home gym, used only once, bought for \$1400, asking \$900 OBO! Glass top coffee table with 2 matching end tables. Great condition; \$150 for all. Call 228-424-5237.
For sale: Nordictack CX990 Elliptical rider \$295 call 549-9702
For sale: Red Fiberglass topper/shell for long wheel base Chevrolet or GMC pickup. Sliding and tinted side windows. Like new condition. Cost \$1,000 new, will sell for \$ 500. Please call 662-327-1410.
For sale: 1994 Formula Firebird Factory Wheels for sale in Good Condition. 16X7.5 with 5 holes, \$300 OBO. Call Lee at 434-7729 or 240-0881.

Homes

Home For Sale By Owner: 82 Cedar Dr, Beautiful home located in Sherwood Forest Community, 3BR, 2BA, 2156 SF, new tile/carpet, vaulted ceilings, enclosed sunroom, walk in closets, freshly painted interior and exterior, spacious kitchen with plenty of cabinet space, fenced in backyard w/ shed, 2 car garage. Must See!

\$175,500. Call 662-549-7745/662-889-4264.

Transportation

For sale: 2006 Chevrolet Trailblazer

LS, light blue, 6 cyl., auto, 2wd, a/c, sun roof, towing package, 56,000 miles. \$12,500. Please call 327-1410.
For sale: 06' Ducati Paul Smart Replica, 1.4k, Limited Edition, Showroom Condition w/ lots of extras,

Full Termignoni Exhaust. \$10,750 obo. 501-773-4013.
For sale: 00' Honda Civic SL 136K, great condition, 18" rims, low profile tires, Carbon Hood, Full Exhaust/Air Filter, \$4500 obo. 501-773-4013

Bargain Line advertisement

The Bargain Line is free for all military members (including guard and reserve members), DOD civilians, military retirees, family members and contract employees. Bargain Line advertisements must be turned in to the Silver Wings office in the 14th Flying Training Wing headquarters building by noon Monday to be included in the following week's issue. Late ads will be held over for the next issue. Reruns must be phoned in to the Silver Wings office, 434-7068, by noon Monday for inclusion in the next week's issue. Please do not re-submit ads for rerun on this form. Advertisements should contain a home phone number, home address or both. Duty phone numbers will not appear in the ads. Advertisements for private businesses or services providing a continuous source of income, such as baby-sitting or rental property, may not appear in the Bargain Line. They may, however, be purchased through the Silver Wings publisher, 328-2424. Please fill out this form completely. The Silver Wings staff reserves the right to edit ads as necessary.

Type of advertisement (circle one) Home Transportation Miscellaneous Yard sales Pets

Print advertisement _____

Name _____

Home Telephone # _____ Duty Telephone # _____
(in case we need more information)

Please let us know what you think of the Silver Wings:

Are you happy with the Silver Wings? Yes ☐ No ☐

What would you like to see more of in the newspaper? News ☐ Sports ☐ Photos ☐ Other _____

If you would like to give any other suggestions, please e-mail us at silverwings@columbus.af.mil.

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Sunday School - Sunday 9:30am

Morning Worship - Sunday 10:30am

Evening Worship - Sunday 6:00pm

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Pastor, Don Harding • Minister of Music, Chris Harding • Youth Director, Mike Gambal

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Columbus, MS 39705

IFF 09-FB graduates six

The 49th Fighter Training Squadron hosted graduation for Introduction to Fighter Fundamentals, Class 09-FB March 27. Six members will graduate this phase of their training on their way to becoming fighter pilots and fighter weapons system operators in various aircraft for the Combat Air Forces.

The 49th FTS is responsible for Active Duty, Guard, Reserve, and International flying training in the T-38C aircraft. The 49th FTS provides training to fighter pilots and weapon system officers entering Air Force major fighter weapons systems, which include the F16, F15C, F15E, and A-10.

The nine-week course begins with tactical formation flights and then introduces pilots to basic fighter maneuvers and air-to-air employment in offensive, defensive, and high aspect fight scenarios. Students bound for aircraft with an air-to-ground attack capability then move on to surface attack and low-altitude tactical navigation phases learn-

ing to employ ordnance against ground targets. The skills learned during IFF directly translate to the fighters these students will soon fly in their follow-on training and one day employ in combat.

Congratulations to the following fighter candidates!

2nd Lt. William Flynt	F-16	A/A
Top Gun Award Winner		
2nd Lt. John Widmer	F-16	A/G
Top Gun Award Winner		
Capt. Kurt Macaloney	F-15E	Top
WSO Award Winner		
2nd Lt. Jason Israel	F-15E	WSO
2nd Lt. David Jones	F-15E	WSO
1st Lt. Jacob Rieth	F-15E	WSO

14th MDG holds Women's Health Fair



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Jacob Corbin
Sarah Ayers, wife of 1st Lt. John Ayers, an instructor pilot with the 41st Flying Training Squadron, browses the Columbus AFB Commissary booth at the Women's Health Fair March 28. The fair was held at the Koritz Clinic as part of the Women's History month activities and featured booths with information on a variety of topics, from dental care, to healthy eating.

Don't Drink and Drive


COMMANDER
AIR EDUCATION & TRAINING COMMAND
RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, TEXAS 78160-4324

10 March 2009

Colonel Roger H. Watkins, USAF
Commander, 14th Flying Training Wing
555 Seventh Street, Suite 203
Columbus AFB, MS 39710-1018

Dear Colonel Watkins

The spring 2009 AETC Commanders' and Command Chiefs' Conference is a perfect example of why we're the *First Command*. Superbly planned and flawlessly executed, the conference provided attendees with an engaging week of substantive policy discussions, crucial cross-talk, and essential teambuilding. Your leadership and guidance made the conference a huge success, and I applaud your professionalism, initiative, and follow-through. Our commanders and command chiefs left *BLAZE* Country more energized than ever to develop America's Airmen to fight and win in the air, space, and cyberspace.

There are many highlights to the week and it would be impossible to single out just one shining star. However, I couldn't be more proud of the teamwork visible across Columbus, both before and during our visit. Simply, the 14th FTW set a new standard of excellence for these conferences.

Again, thanks for hosting such an outstanding visit and for your enduring commitment to the success of our Airmen, our Air Force, and our great Nation.

Sincerely


STEPHEN R. LORENZ
General, USAF

Remember:

No cell phones
while driving on
Columbus AFB.
It can save lives.



14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED

As of press time, 54 BLAZE TEAM members are deployed worldwide. Remember to support the Airmen and their families while they are away.



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Track Select

Capt. Nolan, David A. T-1
Lt. Agee, David L. T-1
Lt. Boulter, Jacques, A. T-1
Lt. Brandt, Jensen B. T-1
Lt. Gagnon, Daniel T-1
Lt. Hixon, Thomas D. T-1
Lt. Jordan, Bradley T. T-1
Lt. Ratner, Seth A. T-1
Lt. Riggs, Jason L. T-1
Lt. Rodway, Christopher C. T-1
Lt. Rogers, Erik M. T-1
Lt. Shimamura, Naomichi T-1
Lt. Smith, Skyler C. T-1
Lt. Sugawara, Kazushi T-1
Lt. Ulm, Davis B. T-1
Lt. Zacharias, Matthew S. T-1
Lt. Ziegler, Anthony J. T-1
Capt. Hampton, Michael A. T-38
Lt. Osterreicher, Ian R. T-38
Lt. George John, Dinesh T-38
Lt. Groth, William P. T-38
Lt. Koh, Yunaki A. T-38
Lt. Sellers, Tico A. T-38
Lt. Copeland, Jeffery C. T-44
Lt. Droney, Chad M. T-44
Lt. Lanterman, Christopher E. T-44
Lt. Scardaci, Matthew T-44
Lt. Staten, Charles E. T-44
Lt. Yowell, Brock A. Helo



T-37 Top Guns

Contact: Lt. Seth Ratner
Instrument: Lt. Christopher Rodway
Formation: Lt. Ian Osterreicher

Dubisher Award

Lt. Ian Osterreicher

09-15

IRBY

(Continued from Page 1)

Customer Relations Assistant.

“Happy Irby was selfless and generous with a bright smile and endearing laugh and a very special member of the Columbus AFB family,” reflected Col. Roger Watkins, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander. “He served Columbus AFB as a customer-relations assistant for over 50 years and was loved and respected by all who knew him; from the most junior enlisted person to four-star generals. He will be missed and never forgotten.”

Many know Happy through the Happy Christmas Fund. Mr. Irby, his late wife Sarah and the Missionary Union Baptist Church started the Happy Christmas Fund in the 1950s, when Mr. Irby, working at the Columbus AFB Officers' Club, would take his daily tips he earned as a waiter and put them in a large-mouthed pickle jar. At Christmas time, Mr. Irby would gather all his tips to purchase clothing and school supplies for disadvantaged children in the Columbus area.

Over the years, this idea blossomed into "Happy Christmas Jugs" placed in various businesses around town to assist The Happy Irby Fund. Many times, Happy would also don a Santa Claus uniform and personally deliver the presents. Happy believed everyone should be happy on Christmas.

Today, the Happy Irby Christmas Fund is a thriving private organization that has benefited thousands of adults and children alike. Last year, the fund has been able to provide clothing and supplies to over 500 children in the local schools and community. In addition, the Happy Irby Fund has delivered over 150 fruit baskets to shut-ins and elderly who would otherwise be alone. In 1996 the Happy Fund became part of the Combined Federal Campaign with 100 percent of donations collected used to provide gifts. Local fund raisers such as the CAFB Annual Happy Fund Golf Tournament and private donations are accepted throughout the year to keep Happy Irby's dream alive.

The local and national recognition Irby has received over the years is testament to his undying devotion humanitarian causes.

The Columbus Club's "Happy Lounge," graced by a full-length painting of Happy, was dedicated in his honor in 1971. In 1984, he received the Morale, Welfare and Recreation Meritorious Award as the most Outstanding Club Employee in Air Training Command.

His major Community Service Awards include an honorary degree as Doctor of Humane Letters from Mary Holmes College, selection as one of Mississippi's representatives for President Bush's Thousand Points of Light, Designation as one of Mississippi's Ageless Heroes by Mississippi Blue Cross Blue Shield, presentation of the Harriet Tubman Award by the Magnolia Bar Association in 2006 and the significant honor of being one of the initial Columbus Air Force Base Wingmen. In 1999, Happy traveled to Washington, D.C., to receive the prestigious Jefferson Award for Public Service.

Happy Irby touched the lives of countless people and that impact is felt globally. His spirit cuts all boundaries and unites people from all walks of life for one purpose: to serve their fellow man. He left the world better than he found it.

SILVER WINGS

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Submission Deadline

The deadline for submitting copy for next week's SILVER WINGS is noon Monday. Articles may be dropped off at the public affairs office or e-mailed.

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This commercial enterprise Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services.

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Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.

Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the 14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs Office of Columbus AFB, Miss.

The SILVER WINGS staff reserves the right to edit or rewrite all copy submitted when necessary. All photos are U.S. Air Force photos unless otherwise stated.

Submit all advertising to the Columbus, Miss., Commercial Dispatch advertising department one week prior to desired publication date. The advertising department can be reached at (662) 328-2427.

Luke Airmen assist disabled veterans at ski clinic

Ryan Mattox

Defense Media Activity-San Antonio

SNOWMASS, Colo. — A team of eight Airmen from Luke Air Force Base, Ariz., volunteered their time and energy to drive 15 hours and assist nearly 400 disabled veterans participate in a winter sports rehabilitation clinic here.

The team is spending a week helping disabled veterans experience the 23rd National Disabled Veterans Winter Sports Clinic that began March 29 and ends April 3 at Snowmass Village, Colo.

According to VA officials, it is the largest adaptive event of its kind in the world.

The clinic, a six-day event, teaches veterans with disabilities skills in adaptive Alpine and Nordic skiing, and introduces them to a number of other recreational activities and sports, such as rock climbing, scuba diving, trap shooting and sled hockey. They can also participate in additional events and workshops.

According to event officials, for an event of this size there is a lot of planning and coordination.

“It takes teamwork, belief and people buy-

ing into what we do here,” said Sandy Trombetta, the National Disabled Veterans Winter Sports Clinic director. “Everyone who comes to this event owns it. It's that sense of ownership by every individual that makes it work. You can create the greatest plan in the world, but unless you have people who really buy in and are willing to do whatever it takes to succeed you are not going to go anywhere and that what happens here.”

To be part of that team, Tech. Sgt. Richard Layton, a 56th Maintenance Group weapons training manager and a veteran of the winter clinic, coordinated this team and prepared them for the trip. While here, it is his job to act as the liaison between the event coordinators and the team.

Sergeant Layton said after doing this for six years, the coordination is pretty smooth now and support for the team has been great. The team's mission is to assist the veterans and prepare the event sites.

“We want to take the veteran where they want to go and it's up to us to create an environment where they have easy access and opportunity and not have to worry about anything and do things on their own,” Mr.

Trombetta said. “We provide the support so that can happen.”

The team spent the first two days helping more than 200 veterans as they arrived at the airport, assisting them getting off the plane, with their luggage and getting transportation to Snowmass Village. The rest of the week, the team spent setting up equipment, preparing staging areas, building wheelchair ramps and anything else that needs to be done.

The majority of the work during the week is spent transporting veterans to the various events. When the event ends, the team will tear down the events and head back to the airport and load the passengers on their planes and leave for their home station.

Some of the team members stated it was their first time coming here and said they jumped at that the opportunity to help veterans.

“I never really have been involved with veterans and I hope I can learn something from them while I am here. It makes me feel awesome to help,” said Airman 1st Class David Hague, a jet engine mechanic from Luke AFB. “You can see the joy in their faces when they get out and participate.”



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Desiree N. Palacios

Steve Slater and Master Sgt. Scott Harris escort Michael Murphy off a United aircraft March 28 at the Aspen Airport, Colo. Mr. Slater is a ski instructor for the Disabled American Veterans Winter Sports Clinic and is from Buffalo, N.Y. Sergeant Harris is the first sergeant for the 56th Security Forces Squadron at Luke Air Force Base, Ariz. Mr. Murphy is prior Air Force and his hometown is Dayton, Ohio. This is Mr. Murphy's first year attending the clinic.

Sports Shorts

Fitness Classes: The Fitness Center offers fitness classes. Spin classes are Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays beginning at 7 a.m. Cardio kick boxing classes are Mondays and Wednesdays at 5 p.m. and aerobics is offered Saturdays at 9 a.m. For more information, call the Fitness Center at 434-2772.

Lunch, Bowl Special: Receive two free games of bowling from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. with the purchase of a combo meal during lunch.

Cosmic Bowling: Cosmic bowling is every Friday and Saturday from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. Cost is \$2 per game. The night is complete with black lights, loud music, strobe lights and bowling!

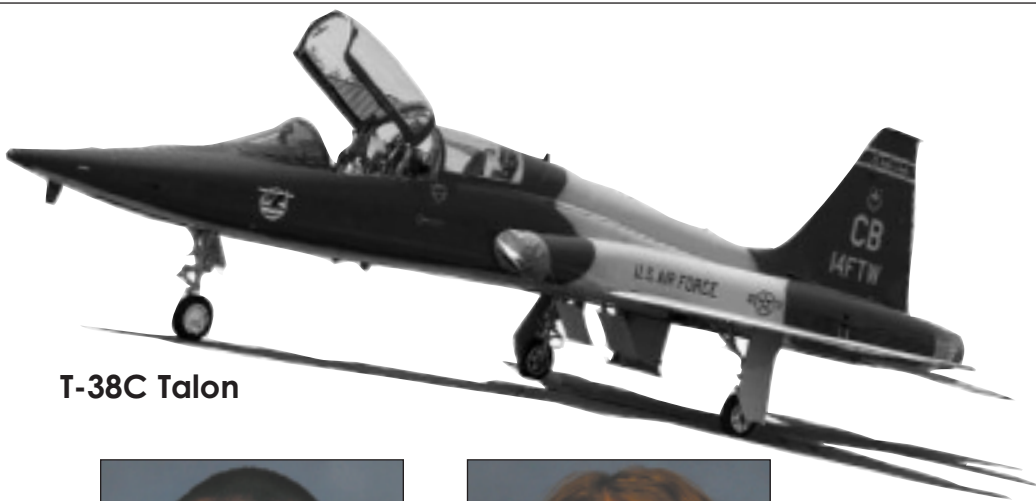
Tuesday Intramural Basketball Scores

Game 1: 14 SFS 48 L 14 MDG 55 W

Game 2: 14 CES 50 L 14 MDG 59 W



T-1A Jayhawk



T-38C Talon

SUPT Class 09-07 earns silver wings



1st Lt. Elisa McGhee
Islamorada, Fla.
C-130H3, Charlotte Air National
Guard Base, N.C.



2nd Lt. Mathew Aiken
Superior, Wis.
C-21, Fargo ANGB, N.D.

Fourteen officers have prevailed during a year of training, earning the right to be an Air Force pilot. Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 09-07 graduates at 10 a.m. today during a ceremony at the Kaye Auditorium.

The graduation speaker is Col. David Reth, 14th Operations Group commander. The group conducts pilot training for U.S. Air Force and international officers, using a fleet of over 200 T-6, T-38, and T-1 aircraft and flight simulators. His command includes six squadrons and over 1,000 officers, civilians, enlisted, and contractors.

Students receive their silver pilot's wings at the ceremony, and students who excelled in their respective training tracks are recognized.

Second Lt. Matthew Walton, T-1, received the Air Education and Training Command Commander's Trophy for being the most outstanding students overall in their classes.

The Air Force Association Award was presented to 2nd Amy Bower, T-1. The award is presented to a graduate in each flight who excelled in training and typified the tenets of the association — promoting aerospace power and a strong national defense.

Lieutenant Walton was named the distinguished graduate.

The 52-week pilot training program begins with a six-week preflight phase of academics and physiological training to prepare students for flight. The second phase, primary training, is conducted in the single-engine, turbo-prop T-6A Texan II at Columbus AFB, Miss. Students learn aircraft flight characteristics, emergency procedures, takeoff and landing procedures, aerobatics and forma-

tion flying. Students also practice night, instrument and cross country navigation flying.

Primary training takes approximately 23 weeks and includes 254.4 hours of ground training, 27.3 hours in the flight simulator and 89 hours in the T-6A aircraft.

After primary training, students select, by order of merit, advanced training in the fighter-bomber or airlift-tanker track.

Both tracks are designed to best train pilots for successful transition to their follow-on aircraft and mission.

Advanced training for the fighter track is done in the T-38C Talon, a tandem-seat, twin-engine supersonic jet. T-38 training emphasizes formation, advanced aerobatics and navigation. Training takes approximately 26 weeks and includes 381 hours of ground training, 31.6 hours in the flight simulator and 118.7 hours in the T-38C aircraft.

The airlift-tanker track uses the T-1A Jayhawk, the military version of a multi-place Beech Jet 400 business jet.

Instruction centers on crew coordination and management, instrument training, cross-country flying and simulated refueling and airdrop missions. Training takes about 26 weeks and includes 185 hours of ground training, 43 hours in the flight simulator and 104 hours in the T-1A.

Each class is partnered with two business or civic organizations during their year of training. This program is designed to foster closer ties between the community and Columbus Air Force Base. Today, each student will be given a set of pilot wings with their names engraved on the back as a token of good luck from their partners. Class's 09-07 pilot partner is Leon Ellis, Ellis Construction.



2nd Lt. Justin Cadwell
Wake Forest, N.C.
RC-135, Offutt AFB, Neb.



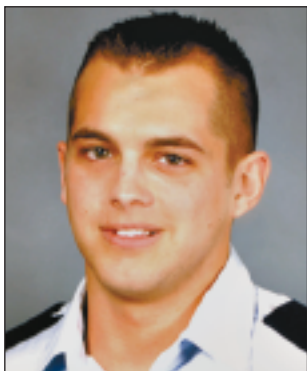
2nd Lt. Philip Glorioso
Morgantown, W.Va.
UAS, Creech AFB, N.M.



2nd Lt. David O'Donnell
Memphis, Tenn.
E-3, Tinker AFB, Okla.



2nd Lt. Nathan Preston
Phoenix, Ariz.
KC-135, Phoenix ANGB, Ariz.



2nd Lt. Joseph Raffa
Oswego, N.Y.
T-1, Columbus AFB, Miss.



2nd Lt. Edward Sutton
Coatesville, Pa.
C-17, McGuire AFB, N.J.



2nd Lt. Matthew Walton
Colorado Spring, Colo.
C-17, McChord AFB, Wash.



2nd Lt. Shane Williams
Eustis, Fla.
C-17, McChord AFB, Wash.

